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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

COUNTRY

USSR

SUBJECT

Port Information: Novorossisk

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DATE DISTR. 15 Jun 1953

NO. OF PAGES 2

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SUPP. TO
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2. The [REDACTED] vessel arrived at Novorossisk [REDACTED] to load grain. During the five days spent at Novorossisk only four merchant ships were observed in the harbor area; namely, one Soviet tanker, one Italian and two Soviet merchant ships. The latter three were in the port to load grain. None of the names of these vessels could be remembered.

3. At point (A) on photostat of HO Chart No 4217, Novorossisk Harbor, a destroyer was observed berthed at the pier. This ship had four guns forward in two enclosed mounts and two guns aft in one enclosed mount. Also the ship had one funnel, not raked, and two masts, a larger one forward and a smaller one aft. The forward mast was equipped with a radar antenna. [REDACTED] the area around point (A) was a Navy Yard and that he observed several vessels in this area which appeared to be under construction. Details concerning these ships could not be furnished.

4. One day [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a torpedo exit from an area near point (C), and proceed directly out into the harbor for about one mile. The object made a very sharp 360 degree turn at the end of its run and proceeded back to the place from which it came. In appearance, the object was about 15 feet long, very thin, and colored the same as the water. Its speed was estimated [REDACTED] as about 37 miles per hour. The wake was long and thin and the object did not appear to be propeller driven, but seemed to be powered by compressed air or rockets. The object travelled in a very straight line and the most noticeable feature [REDACTED] was the sharp turn made at the end of the run at full speed. The area around point (C), reported to be a torpedo factory, is a restricted area.

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- 2 -

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5. All vessels entering the harbor of Novorossisk are required, stated the informant, to stop at point (D) for "control" before proceeding to a pier. The harbor patrol is reported to have its base at point (E). [redacted] harbor patrol craft are always out in the harbor. Located at point (F) is an observation point maintained by the Soviet Navy. The security on the pier at which the informant's ship was docked consisted of three gates, each with an armed guard and three armed guards alongside the ship at all times. The passes used by the crew to go ashore were of the typical duplicate kind employed in Soviet and Satellite ports.

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6. Transportation observed in the area consisted of old busses, and one taxi; a US jeep with a wooden top. [redacted] "many" US GMC trucks, weapons carriers and jeeps. These were usually operated by the military. A bus from the dock area to the town left every half hour during the day from the bus station at point (G). At point (H) was said to be located the last stop of this bus. At point (I) is said to be an iron factory.

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7. In the town of Novorossisk, a great many soldiers and sailors were observed. All of the soldiers were well-dressed, with boots shined and were well fed. When on duty, [redacted] each soldier carried "a new (1952) machine gun," a pistol, and one grenade in a pouch at the belt. The sailors did not present the same neat appearance as did the soldiers. Their uniforms were old and did not match and their boots were old and worn. Some of the sailors had blue stripes and some had white. Sailors on duty were armed only with an old model rifle. [redacted] some carried one type, while others carried another type of rifle. Most of the people seen on the streets were either soldiers or sailors with very few civilians being in evidence.

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[redacted]

10. No ships or planes of any kind were observed during either the approach or departure through the Black Sea area.

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[redacted]

- end -

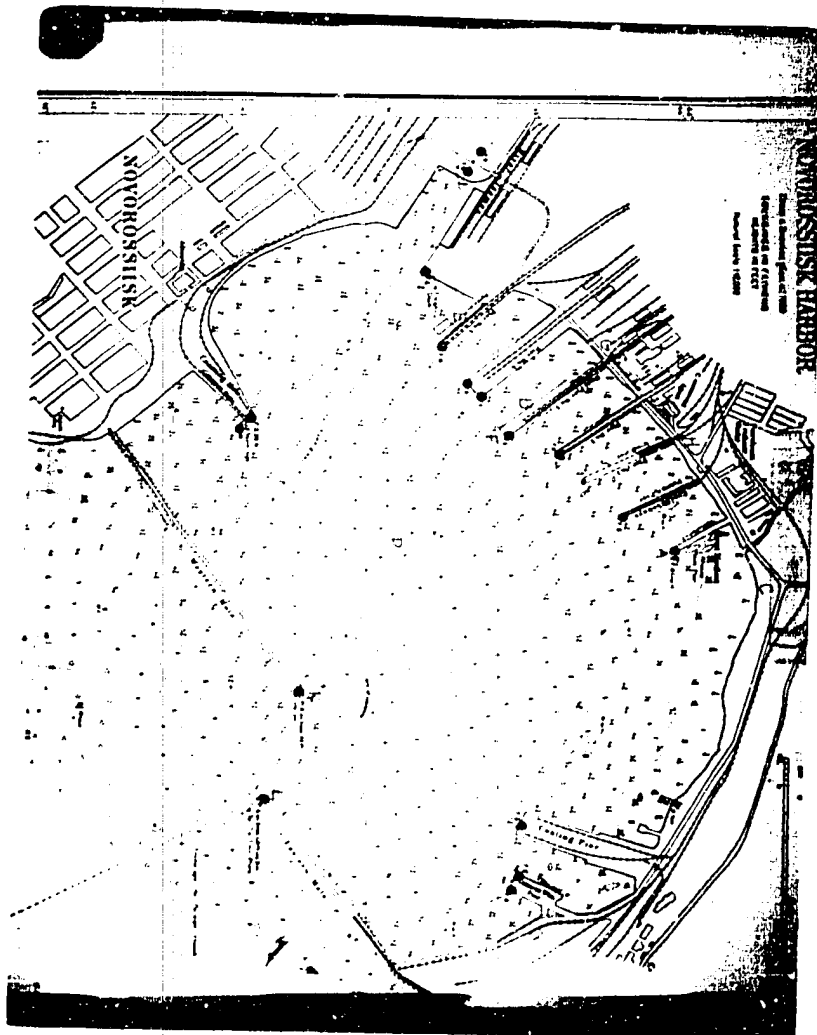
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